

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 05376 121202Z

40

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 114935

O R 121054Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 585

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T ROME 5376

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: NATO

SUBJECT: PROSPECTIVE NATO SUMMIT

REF: STATE 081406 (NOTAL)

1. CHARGE' DISCUSSED RATIONALE FOR NATO SUMMIT ALONG LINES REFTTEL WITH MFA SECRETARY GENERAL AMB. GAJA LAST EVENING. THE ITALIANS HAVE SOME DOUBTS AND QUERIES ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF A SUMMIT STEMMING FROM CONCERNS OVER THE AGENDA, COMMUNIQUE AND THE STATE OF THE ALLIANCE. GAJA EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT IF THE OTHER ALLIES CLEARLY FAVORED A SUMMIT ON MAY 29-30, ITALY WOULD, OF

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ROME 05376 121202Z

COURSE, PARTICIPATE.

2. GAJA SAID HE HAD TALKED PREVIOUSLY ABOUT THIS SUBJECT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER RUMOR, WHO PLANNED TO DISCUSS IT WITH HIS EC COLLEAGUES AT DUBLIN OVER THE WEEKEND. RUMOR WILL PROCEED TO LUXEMBOURG ON MONDAY AND NOT BE AVAILABLE AGAIN TO GAJA UNTIL THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 15. CONSEQUENTLY, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING BY OPENING OF BUSINESS APRIL 15 IN ORDER TO RESPOND TO GAJA IN TIME TO HAVE OUR POSITION REGISTERED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR NAC MEETING IN BRUSSELS APRIL 16.

3. RUMOR HAS NOTED PRESIDENT FORD'S STATE OF THE WORLD SPEECH IN WHICH HE MENTIONED THAT SUCH A SUMMIT MEETING WOULD CONSIDER PROBLEMS INVOLVING ENERGY, RAW MATERIALS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN ADDITION TO THE TRADITIONAL NATO AGENDA ITEMS. GAJA REMARKED THAT NATO HAS NEVER BEEN A SUCCESSFUL FORUM FOR THESE MATTERS AND WONDERED WHAT WE HAD SPECIFICALLY IN MIND FOR SUCH ITEMS AT A SUMMIT MEETING. GAJA MADE CLEAR THAT, IN HIS VIEW, ANY SUMMIT MUST HAVE A CLEARLY DEFINED AND COMPREHENSIVELY PREPARED AGENDA WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT TO PRODUCE AN IMPORTANT COMMUNIQUE OR DECLARATION. IN THE CONVERSATION, GAJA INDICATED HIS APPRECIATION OF OUR VIEW THAT A MEETING OF THE ALLIANCE AT THIS TIME AND AT THIS LEVEL SHOULD QUITE PROPERLY TREAT THESE SUBJECTS BUT HE REMAINED SKEPTICAL OF THE SUMMIT BEING ABLE TO DEAL WITH THEM IN ANY MEANINGFUL WAY. HE ASKED EXPLICITLY FOR U.S. THINKING ON THESE POINTS, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH (WHICH ANTEDATED REFTEL).

4. AT ANOTHER LEVEL, THE ITALIANS SPECULATE ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF TROUBLE AT A NATO SUMMIT INVOLVING WEAK SPOTS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE, PARTICULARLY PORTUGAL AND GREECE AND TURKEY. GAJA POINTED OUT THAT THE REPRESENTATION BY PORTUGAL AT THE SUMMIT OR CONCEIVABLY ITS ABSENCE, COULD BE VERY EMBARRASSING, NOT TO SAY DAMAGING. FURTHERMORE, IF THERE IS NOT PROGRESS ON CYPRUS OR AN EVEN WORSE SETBACK, A DIFFICULT SITUATION WOULD ARISE. MOREOVER, HE SPECULATED ALOUD THAT ONE OR MORE COUNTRIES (HE CITED ONLY PORTUGAL AS AN EXAMPLE) MIGHT BE REPRESENTED AT LOWER THAN CHIEF OF STATE/ HEAD OF GOVERNMENT LEVEL, AGAIN POTENTIALLY DAMAGING TO THE ALLIANCE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ROME 05376 121202Z

5. WITH REGARD TO CSCE, THE ITALIANS SEEM HAPPY TO CONSIDER A SUMMIT WHICH IS NOT TIED TO PHASE III OF CSCE. IN FACT, GAJA POINTED OUT THAT IF DISASTER SHOULD BEFALL VIETNAM COINCIDENTALLY WITH PHASE III, IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO CONCLUDE A CSCE AGREEMENT AT THE SUMMIT AT THE SAME TIME. GAJA ALSO ASSUMED THAT ANY COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY A NATO SUMMIT MEETING WOULD PROBABLY DEVOTE ONLY A PARAGRAPH TO CSCE.

6. GAJA ALSO CLEARLY WAS CONSIDERING WHETHER, AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH, A CLEARLY SUCCESSFUL SUMMIT COULD BE MADE POLITICALLY ADVANTAGEOUS TO PRIME MINISTER MORO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ITALIAN REGIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS, WHICH WOULD FOLLOW THE SUMMIT BY ONLY TWO WEEKS.

7. IT WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED IF THE DEPARTMENT WOULD PROVIDE US WITH VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THOSE ISSUES TROUBLING THE ITALIANS WHICH COULD BE PASSED TO GAJA DURING THE MORNING OF APRIL 15. WHILE THE ITALIANS WILL GO ALONG WITH AN OVERWHELMING CONSENSUS FOR A SUMMIT, THEIR PRESENT ATTITUDE MAKES IT CLEAR THAT THEY ARE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC BUT WILL NOT ACTIVELY OPPOSE. IN OUR VIEW, IF ONLY THE FRENCH, FOR EXAMPLE, WERE OPPOSED, THE ITALIANS WOULD SIDE WITH THE MAJORITY, BUT IF THERE ARE AT LEAST FOUR OR FIVE ALLIES WHO OBJECT, THEN IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT THE ITALIANS WILL WAFFLE.
BEAUDRY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, ALLIANCE, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME05376
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750128-0393
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750456/aaaabzla.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 081406
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROSPECTIVE NATO SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, US, NATO, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006